

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits the following remarks in response to the Office communication dated November 14, 2006.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that at least Claims 1, 4, 6 – 9, 14 – 23 and 26 are allowable. Applicant has amended Claim 24 to incorporate the allowable limitation from Claim 26 and intervening claim 25 as generally suggested by the Examiner. Applicant has also cancelled claims 46 – 53 as generally suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

In the Office communication dated November 14, 2006, the Examiner did not provide evidence that Claims 5, and 10 – 13 were rejoined. Applicant submits that Claims 5, and 10 – 13 should be rejoined and allowed. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. As indicated by the Examiner, "claim 1 is generic." (Page 2 of the Office Action dated October 4, 2005). Claims 5 and 10 – 13 depend from generic Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 5 and 10 – 13 should be rejoined and allowed.

Conclusion

If the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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